

December 21, 1999

Mr. R. P. Powers
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Generation Group
American Electric Power Company
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107-1395

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-315/99023(DRS); 50-316/99023(DRS)

Dear Mr. Powers:

On October 28, 1999, the NRC completed an inspection at your D. C. Cook Units 1 and 2 reactor facilities. The inspection addressed Case Specific Checklist Items No. 4A, "Failure to Perform Safety Evaluations or Screenings", and No. 4B, "Inadequate Safety Evaluations", which were established through NRC's Manual Chapter 0350, "Staff Guidelines for Restart Approval". This inspection assessed corrective actions to address significant deficiencies identified relative to your 10 CFR 50.59 safety evaluation program and its implementation. The enclosed report documents the results of the inspection.

Based on the results of this inspection, major improvements were noted regarding the implementation of the 10 CFR 50.59 safety evaluation program at D. C. Cook. We observed that process improvements, close management oversight, and good quality training contributed to the performance improvements. As a result, the NRC concluded that corrective actions for Case Specific Checklist Restart Item No. 4A, "Failure to Perform Safety Evaluations or Screenings", were adequate to support closure of this item. We also understand that you will continue with personnel training, oversight and assessments of this area after restart to ensure sustained improvements.

Regarding Case-Specific Checklist Item No. 4B, "Inadequate Safety Evaluations", our review confirmed that safety evaluations and screenings have been adequately completed. The adequacy of these work products has been dependent on the involvement of the Nuclear Safety Assessment Team (NSAT) in-line review function. We understand that the NSAT review function will remain in place through plant restart until your staff demonstrates consistently the ability to produce quality safety screenings and evaluations. Based on the effectiveness of your programs and processes to produce adequate safety evaluations and screenings, we consider your actions to address Case Specific Checklist Item No. 4A adequate to support closure of this item.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice", a copy of this letter, the enclosure, and your response to this letter, if you choose to provide one, will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

Original signed by John A. Grobe

John A. Grobe, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-315; 50-316
License Nos. DPR-58; DPR-74

Enclosure: Inspection Report 50-315/99023(DRS); 50-316/99023(DRS)

cc w/encl: A. C. Bakken III, Site Vice President
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Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
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